



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1916

PONCELET POLYGONS¹

CONTENTS

<i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science:—</i>	
<i>Poncelet Polygons:</i> PROFESSOR H. S. WHITE.	149
<i>The Contest with Physical Nature:</i> THE HONORABLE F. K. LANE	158
<i>Daniel Giraud Elliot:</i> DR. J. A. ALLEN	159
<i>Francois Marion Webster:</i> W. R. WALTON	162
<i>The Joseph Austin Holmes Memorial</i>	164
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	165
<i>University and Educational News</i>	168
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Fireflies Flashing in Unison:</i> DR. EDWARD S. MORSE. <i>Polyradiate Cestodes:</i> PROFESSOR FRANKLIN D. BARKER. <i>An Organic Oolite from the Ordovician:</i> DR. FRANCIS M. VAN TUYL. <i>Use of C.G.S. Units:</i> PROFESSOR ALEXANDER MCADIE. <i>The First Secretary of Agriculture:</i> DR. G. P. CLINTON	169
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Arrhenius on Quantitative Laws in Biological Chemistry:</i> PROFESSOR HUGH S. TAYLOR. <i>Underhill on the Physiology of the Amino Acids:</i> PROFESSOR GRAHAM LUSK.	172
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>The Discovery of the Chestnut-blight Parasite in Japan:</i> DR. C. L. SHEAR, NIEL E. STEVENS	173
<i>The American Society of Zoologists:</i> PROFESSOR CASWELL GRAVE	176

THERE is nothing which can not be known. Such at least is the postulate of science. Wide as is the universe of matter, numberless as are the objects and the events in the world of either dead matter or living organisms, yet the scientist must have faith that all can be observed, classified, named; that a finite number of terms and a finite system of laws will suffice ultimately for the summing up of what we call the external universe. A dream, if one regards it as a positive expectation! Yet how far it has gone in the direction of realization in certain obvious horizons! In our solar system it is not frequently that a major planet is discovered. In the chemist's domain, does any one concede that the unknown elements are more in number than the known? Does any physicist really expect to come upon a new kind of activity at all comparable in importance with the Röntgen rays? Though the ideal of complete knowledge and perfect explanation may be destined never to be reached, yet how prone are we to imagine that it must be not far away!

In a certain contrast to the material world stands the world of intellect and reason, a contrast partly at least fictitious, but also in part intrinsic. It is in this world that geometry exists. Whatever else be true about geometry, it is plain from experience and from history that its objects are ideas or notions; that they are comple-

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-Hudson, N. Y.

¹Address of the retiring vice-president and chairman of Section A of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Columbus, December 30, 1915.